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New Bedford. October 29. 1842

Dear Aunt Mary, I should be very glad if you were sitting beside me at the present time, for I am under very comfortable and cosy circumstances. I rose feeling quite bright & smart, & the moment I had finished my breakfast went to work & thoroughly swept and dusted my chamber. You may think I was glad to have it over when I tell you I dare believe it has been swept but once since Deborah went away. I dust it and pick up every day or two, but as we were to do our own sweeping, the chamber does not see a broom very often. Well, after I had garnished, I made up a good fire in my air tight I have been finishing off the alterations in my blue gown. Now if you were here, sitting in the other rocking chair, for I have two, I could employ my tongue & ears to good purpose. I received both your letters safely, & was full of sympathy for your troubles. I hope ere this that you and Deborah have been to see Dr Wilde, for though I do not suppose I put that faith in him which you do, still it is a comfort to be doing *every thing* from which there is even an expectation of good to to Aunt Phebe; she is so careless that I wonder how she lives. I dare say she took her cold in some presumptuous way or other. When I see how people act, I wonder as many live as do. As for you, you work yourself to death. I do not see it is true, how you can do otherwise unless you give up the A. S. tour. It is "Mary Weston's tour" true enough, but I think she was a most imprudent trollop to say so in the spirit she did. I think both Mary & her mother need to be talked to. I was glad Deborah had pitched into her about the N. H. brethren. I really do not like all Rogers' writes.

He ought not to do evil that good may come. If he disapproves of calling the common people names, (and he does) he ought not to call the ministers names any more. Such expressions as "fat bellied priests" I do not like and I wish he would alter a little. I wish I could send you something for the Fair. I longed to send you Mrs Bradley's $5. but that would never have done you know. I dare say they will get up a pretty table here, though Mary Congdon behaves vilely. Mrs Emerson has never done much for the Fair before & is now doing a great deal, but she says she is no doubt but that it is very unpleasing to Mary. She appears to wish to have it said "Mary Congdon does every thing & has no help at all." Mrs E. is coming to the Fair & she thinks they dont want her to. This, however, she does not mean to mind. I have got very intimate with Mrs E. & like her very well. She is very much like Sarah Ann, save that she is very pleasant tempered and her manners more like other people. I go there a great deal and (between friends) feel more at home there than I do at the Beanes. Grace is more my sort. Mrs B. is so precise, & clerical and frightened at Garrison's Sabbath notions, that it some how keeps us apart, though she likes me I know, & I like her. She is a pleasant conscientious woman a better woman for aught I know than Grace, but she is not so softly, kindly, and in her own hands as is Grace. Poor Mrs Beane too is in very delicate health and all worn out & used up by her children & family cares, the chariot-wheels drag heavily, whereas at Grace's there is the cosiest of rooms, & the warmest of fires & the nicest of teas and abundance of very bright witty talk. The children in both places are some in the way, but the difference between the two women is that Mrs B. is busy snubbing hers & Mrs E. making much of hers. Mrs Bradley, Mrs Beane's mother is a good sort of a woman, has many amusing properties, but I get on well enough with her. I have no doubt that ~~Mrs~~ Deborah might have a school here any time she liked. Lucy Congdon told me the other day that they were very sorry that she had gone as they were just going to send a child. Deborah appears to have been greatly liked by all her children. - I understood from Mrs E. last night that she had learned some how that I was to be invited to Joseph Congdons to day, to take tea & stay all night. I cannot go for Mrs E. & I are engaged to ~~take~~ pass the evening with Mrs Lindsey and I am rather glad, as I had rather go there a week day night. I shall probably spend the Sundays all the time I am here at the Emersons. I fancy Mrs Beane & her mother will think this Sabbath breaking, but I cant say as I care for that. My school will close on Friday the 18th I believe of Nov. I shall not come to Boston till Monday. I shall need Saturday to pack up & make my final arrangements & I shall be glad to have a farewell Sunday with the Emersons. I suppose I shall come to Weymouth the day before Thanksgiving. Do all try to be as well as you can then. I am not sorry on the whole, that I came to N.B. It would have been very pleasant to me to have been more with Henry & have seen his last hours, but it is not consequential. If I had been there, it is not probable that Lucia would have staid too, & I doubt not she did better for him & all than I could have done. So perhaps it is best as it is. You dont know how I long to see him. It would be beautiful to me to meet him in the darkest night & the loneliest place. But as that cannot be, I desire to enjoy

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those who are left. — I have all the papers, & last night came Graham's Magazine. I will send it next week. Keep on writing; your last letter came fair so you need have no doubt about another very soon. I shook when you mentioned Foster, as I did not know but he would break in to Mr Perkins'. I think the likelihood is that the N. H. brethren will go off a wool gathering after other projects beside Abolition; but I shall give myself no particular uneasiness. I am glad to see old Seth is at last cut loose.

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Miss Mary Weston.
Weymouth
Mass.

BEDFORD OCT

Tell D. that Mary Eddy & ~~Mrs~~ Susan Taber have just called. Nothing could equal their amiability, they sent all manner of love to Deborah & kissed me at coming & going.

I hope some to have a bundle to night from Boston. Perhaps you have put a letter in. I should like to be in Boston at Faneuil Hall tomorrow — Remond is coming down here the first of next week. Give all the love in the world to Aunt Priscilla & Aunt Phebe & tell the first she must go out every one of these fine days. Love to all at our house. I have a letter on the stocks for Deborah.

ever yrs A. W W